

Digital Storytelling Report

"Start with the art of storytelling. Add the use of technology and storytelling goes digital! There are many forms of digital storytelling that may combine any of the following elements: text, image, sound, voice and moving images, in a coherent story. It is the interplay of these elements, each of which plays a unique role that gives this medium its power. However, no amount of digital magic will turn a poor story into a good one." <http://members.shaw.ca/dbrear/dst.html#anchor983821>

Fill out this form electronically about the digital story that you created (with Dr. Theresa's pre-approval). Underlined blanks (if you click in the middle of the line) and cells will expand to hold as much as you have to say. Feel free to add additional rows to the table if needed. Please delete any unused rows in the table before printing or submitting this report. Check the syllabus for information on how to submit your completed report (bring a printout to class, email it, upload it, etc.).

1. Your name: Mackenzie Kelley Block #: 1
2. For what project did you make your digital story? CM chapter presentation
3. What is the content information that is being conveyed in a story format (what were you trying to teach or demonstrate that you had learned)? I was trying to teach the class the value of having a quick and effective strategy for assisting students when they are suffering a loss that is school wide such as the death of a student or teacher, and the repercussions if they do not handle the situation well.
4. What type of story are you telling? My story was a narrative since it was of my own experiences.
5. What pre-approved source did you use for defining the type of story that you chose and its elements (copy and paste the URL)?
[http://wiki.answers.com/Q/What are the elements of a narrative](http://wiki.answers.com/Q/What_are_the_elements_of_a_narrative)
6. What is a different product that doesn't involve a digital story that you (or your students) could have created to demonstrate understanding/explanation of the same content (e.g., Glogster, a documentary movie, a radio talk show, MuseumBox, Prezi, etc.)?
I could have done a prezzi or any sort of slide show on how my school handled to the loss versus what should have been done and the impact the entire situation has upon a school district.
7. What are the advantages and disadvantages of using a digital story to convey content compared to the product you picked in #6? (Write a comparison of the two telling the pros and the cons of each.) The pros of having done a digital story for the content are that, first off the story was a lot more meaningful and personal. By making it a description of my feelings it made it easier for other people in the class to relate to the content. If I had simply done a power point to make demonstrate the dos and don'ts people would not have been as engaged and they would not have sympathized with the material as much because a power point has no emotional connection and a story does. A con to using the digital story instead of the power point is that there were less facts presented in the story than could have been included in the power point. The story was not meant to be overly factual, it was just meant to tell a story so the people who watched it may not have gotten as much hard evidence or factual information as they could have if the content had been presented in another medium.
8. Fill in the chart on page 2 about your story. Add rows if needed. Delete any unused rows.

<p><i>The art of storytelling</i> – in the cells below, list each of the various elements of the type of story you are telling. (<i>Copy and paste the element and its description/explanation from the source Web site.</i>)</p>	<p><i>Your digital story</i> – in each corresponding cell below, tell what part of your digital story matches the element. (<i>If the description says your genre needs a superhero, tell who your superhero is. If the description says your genre has to have a conflict, describe the conflict in your story.</i>)</p>	<p><i>Your digital story</i> –Tell how that element helps teach/ explain/ portray your content. OR tell what facets of your content are “told” through that element of your story. (<i>e.g., Marla is reluctant to have her information included in the Maine Memory Network and is perplexed by the “contraption.” It’s very appropriate that she ask the same questions that skeptics will ask about a new technology such as “aren’t there already things in the classroom that will do the same thing?”</i>)</p>
<p>Setting - Where the story takes place; usually every scene has a change of setting.</p>	<p>I describe the setting in the very beginning of the story by mentioning that Mrs. Dressler was a teacher at Monmouth Middle School where the story takes place. It is also mentioned that part of the story takes place at a church, though the specific name of the church is not mentioned as it had no real relevance to the story.</p>	<p>The setting of the school is important to my content because the content was on dealing with losses within a school district and the story is set up as a major loss experienced by my school district from the very beginning.</p>
<p>Character - Description of the character and a little of their background.</p>	<p>There are two main characters in the story. The first is Jane Dressler who is described early on as a kind woman, who teaches and was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. The second character is me, described as a fifth grade student. The only background on me given in the story is the small things I did to try and make Mrs. Dressler feel better.</p>	<p>Having set Mrs. Dressler up as a teacher, which helps continue the idea that this story takes place in a school, and a woman with cancer helps those watching the video to understand how emotional having a sick teacher or coworker can be and how much their passing can impact a large amount of people.</p>
<p>Plot - The series of events that unfold in the story.</p>	<p>There are a few main plot points in the story such as: The trashcan being placed by the desk, Mrs. Dressler not showing up on the first day of school, long term subs, the announcement of</p>	<p>The plot helps to teach the content because any just factual information would just explain what happens after the passing of a student or teacher, through the plot you learn what</p>

	her death, and the funeral.	happens leading up to the passing and what makes it so hard to endure and go through for everyone involved.
Conflict - The struggle between two opposing forces.	The main conflict was Mrs. Dressler versus her cancer.	The conflict continues to help portray the emotion behind these events.
Climax - The strongest part of the story, where the conflict builds up to the emotional peak.	The climax of the story happened when the announcements came on to announce Mrs. Dressler's death.	This part is key to teaching the content because it shows exactly what you should not do in these situations as school administrators or teachers and it goes on to show the fall out of such actions and how it negatively impacts the students.
Resolution - Where the conflict is resolved.	The conflict is also resolved when news of Mrs. Dressler's passing is announced since her battle with the cancer was the conflict.	The resolution helps to explain the content more as well because it continues to show the kinds of things you need to be prepared for as a teacher when your students are suffering from something and you need to help them.
Atmosphere: the general mood or feeling established in a piece of literature. Atmosphere is created through word choice and pacing.	The atmosphere is incredibly somber throughout the story. There are happy moments where you want to laugh such as when Mrs. Dressler used to cry into her kitchen towel, but for the most part the story remains sad since the reader knows from the beginning how the story is going to end.	The atmosphere helps to portray the content because it is not something to be taken lightly. By having such a serious tone to the story, those watching get the idea of just how serious and upsetting these situations are and how important it is to be prepared for them with good strategies.
First person: the narrator uses "I" to tell the action, and is involved in the story.	Since this is a retelling of my own events, emotions, and reactions the story is told through first person instead of third person which would have made it less personal.	Having a first person narrative gives the watcher a more in depth look into the emotions experienced by someone who has gone through such a loss, helps them understand the feelings that come along with it, and helps them see this is a truly serious thing that needs to be dealt with carefully because even if you think the students can handle it, you're wrong.

